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Provident Fund

* 66 Q.—Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether contributions by the management towards provident fund of teachers who have been paid salaries direct by Government for a year from 1st June 1959 have since been credited to their accounts and, if not, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The contributions have been credited, Sir.

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I know, Sir, on what date exactly these contributions were credited and what the delay was due to?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, in June 1959 orders were issued for disbursement of salaries of teachers in elementary schools of private managements which had become non-fee-levying schools for the year 1959–60 through money orders direct through the District Educational Officer concerned. Provident Fund contributions due from the teachers were deducted by the District Educational Officer concerned from the salaries payable to the teachers and arrangements were made by them for crediting the amounts deducted to the Provident Fund Accounts of the teachers. Now the report of the Director of Public Instruction is that all managements have contributed their share and that it has been credited.

Aided elementary schools

* 67 Q.—Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the items of expenditure admissible for aid in the case of aided elementary schools in the State?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The maintenance grant is intended for the proper upkeep of the schools. The classification of admissible items of expenditure for assessing the grant is under consideration.

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that on account of the discretion being given to the inspecting officers, most of the schools do not get as maintenance grant even 10 per cent of the assessed grant?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no such information. But the Government were of the view that there was no need to standardise the several items of expenditure that came under maintenance grant, but they have since decided to list out the various items of expenditure.

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that most of these elementary school managements have of late been half-starving and is there any proposal either to nationalise the schools or to liberalise these grants?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no information about that and I may also tell the hon. Member that there is no proposal to nationalise the schools.

Fee concessions

* 68. *Q.*—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to State—

(*a*) whether the children of Non-Anglo-Indian teachers in recognised Angola-Indian schools are eligible for fee concessions, granted to children of teachers in recognised elementary and secondary schools ;

(*b*) whether the children of Anglo-Indian teachers are eligible for fee concession ; and

(*c*) whether the non-Anglo-Indian teachers in Anglo-Indian schools are eligible for the benefits of the Pension Scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir, if they study in Indian Secondary Schools.

(*b*) & (*c*) Yes, Sir.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Sir, may I know why the children of non-Anglo-Indian teachers, if they study in Anglo-Indian schools, are denied the fee concessions while the Anglo-Indian schools are recognised institutions?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The children of Anglo-Indian teachers employed in the schools recognised by the Education Department are eligible for the grant of educational concessions admissible to children of N.G.Os. But no stipulation has been laid down that the children of Anglo-Indian teachers would be eligible for the concessions only if they study in Anglo-Indian schools. Teachers in recognised Anglo-Indian schools are also eligible for pension and other benefits under the Madras Teachers Contributory Provident Fund-Insurance-Pension Rules.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Anglo-Indian schools are recofnised institutions. Non-Anglo-Indian teachers, as the Hon, Minister just now said, are eligible for pension. How is it that the children of these Non-Anglo-Indian teachers serving in Anglo-Indian schools are not eligible for fee concession?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It was a proposal made at the meeting of the State Board of Anglo-Indian Education on 28th March 1956 and that proposal was accepted by the Government, namely, that educational concession granted to the children of N.G.Os. and others in Anglo-Indian schools be restricted to the children of N.G.Os. and others belonging to the Anglo-Indian community only. This order took effect from January 1957. This order was issued because the Anglo-Indian schools were intended primarily for the Anglo-Indian children.